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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1907.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE

WILL CONVEENE IN THE SECOND
METHODIST CHURCH IN CO-
LUMBUS NEXT WED-
NESDAY MORNING.

Conference Will Remain in Session
Three Days, and Will be Pre-
sided Over by Rev. L. M.
Lipscomb of this City.

The annual conference of the Columbus district of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will convene at the Second Methodist church in this city at eight o'clock next Wednesday morning. The conference will remain in session three days, and will be presided over by Rev. L. M. Lipscomb, presiding elder of the Columbus district. The district embraces about fifteen churches, and in addition to the pastors of these fifteen churches there will be an equal number of laymen, making a total of thirty delegates who will attend the conference. The conference is very important in its nature, being devoted to extended discussions of the various branches of religious work, embracing churches, Sabbath schools and local Epworth Leagues.

The conference will be opened with devotional exercises at eight o'clock Wednesday morning, at which time organization will be perfected and the reports of the various pastors will be received. The morning exercises will be concluded with a sermon by Rev. R. H. B. Gladney, and the afternoon will be devoted to a discussion of Epworth League and Sunday school work. The exercises will be opened with prayer by Rev. J. E. Thomas, and Epworth League topics will be discussed as follows: "The Place of the League in Our Economy," Dr. J. W. Shoff; "How to Make the League Go," Rev. R. A. Clarke and Mr. Pat Hogan; "Work of the Third Department," Mrs. J. E. Thomas; "The Reason We Have Not More Leagues in the Columbus District," Rev. E. S. Lewis and Rev. J. A. Poe; "The Relation of Departments of League Work to Life and Character Building of Our Young People," Prof. Joe Cook. The Epworth League discussion will close with a series of five-minute talks by various League workers, and the remainder of the afternoon will be devoted to Sunday school work, which will be discussed as follows: "The Meaning of the Sunday School Idea," Rev. J. E. Thomas; "The Scope of Sunday School Work," Mr. Gid D. Harris; "How to Make the Sunday School the Greatest Possible Success," Messrs. W. H. Carter and S. L. Pope; "Difficulties, As Seen by the Superintendent," Messrs. J. H. Redus, Walter Price and S. B. White; "The Sunday School as a Factor in the Moral and Religious Training of Citizenship," Judge F. A. Critz and Mr. W. W. Magruder. This discussion will bring the afternoon exercises to a close, and at eight o'clock Wednesday night there will be a sermon by Dr. J. W. Shoff, at the conclusion of which the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered by Rev. A. P. Leech, Rev. T. C. Weir and Rev. J. C. Lowe.

Thursday morning the discussion of Sunday school topics will be continued, and educational matters will also be discussed. The exercises will be opened with prayer by Rev. D. W. Babb, and the discussion will proceed as follows: "What is the Primary Factor in the Ideal Sunday School?" Mr. O. P. Brown and Mr. W. V. Connell; "Our Sunday School Literature," Prof. Dabney Lipscomb; "The Home Department," Rev. J. M. Hall. Work in the educational department will begin with the report of the committee on education, which will be presented at the conclusion of Mr. Hall's talk, and the discussion will proceed in the following manner: "The Place of Religious Element in Education," Prof. Dabney Lipscomb and Rev. R. B. Gladney; "Our Educational Needs and Resources," Rev. D. W. Babb and Rev. E. S. Lewis. There will then be short addresses by several visiting delegates, and the morning session will close with a sermon by Rev. T. W. Lewis.

The afternoon session on Thursday will be devoted to church work and missions. To report of the committee on the general state of the church will be submitted, and the discussion will proceed as follows: "What Are the Proofs of the Churches' Life and Power?" Rev. Q. A. Oates and Dr. J. W. Shoff; "What Is Our Pre-

minent Need?" Rev. D. W. Babb, Judge F. A. Critz, Hon. J. I. Sturdivant; "What Style of Preaching Does This Age Require?" Rev. J. E. Thomas and Rev. S. R. Lawson; "What Has Become of the Family Altar and What Relation Does it Sustain to the Life and Power of the Church?" Rev. J. A. Poe and Rev. T. J. Hopper. This will conclude the discussion of the general church work, and missions will be discussed as follows: "The Missionary Spirit the Distinctive Principle of the Gospel," Rev. J. E. Thomas and Rev. W. A. Bowlin; "How to Make Our People More Positively and Aggressively Missionary in Spirit and Practice," Rev. R. H. B. Gladney and Rev. L. D. Worsham; "The Menace of the Rapidly Incoming Foreign Nations of the Globe to American Religion and Free Institutions, and Our Duty in the Premises," Rev. J. C. Lowe and Judge F. A. Critz. Financial topics will be discussed as follows: "Nature and Obligation of the Tithing Law, and Is It Still in Force?" Rev. E. S. Lewis; "Conference Collections, When and How to Raise Them," Rev. W. A. Bowlin and Rev. D. W. Babb. The afternoon session will close with a sermon by Rev. L. D. Worsham.

The exercises Friday morning will be opened with devotional exercises by Rev. W. A. Bowlin, after which delegates to the North Mississippi conference, which is to convene in this city in December, will be elected and all unfinished business will be completed. Judge F. A. Critz will deliver an address on the superannuate fund, and a sermon by Rev. Q. A. Oates will bring the morning session to a close.

At two o'clock Friday afternoon there will be devotional exercises, with a sermon by Rev. S. L. Pope, after which the conference will adjourn.

Mary White Released from Custody.

Mary White, the negro who was arrested on a charge of complicity in the murder of a negro named "Garley" Thomas, who was mysteriously killed on June 8th, had a preliminary examination before Justice of the Peace C. O. Shackelford in the Third district last week, and was released from custody. At the time Thomas was killed he and Mary White were working together on a plantation about six miles southeast of Columbus on the Pickensville road, and according to the tale told by the negro Thomas was shot from ambush by an unseen party. She says that her attention was first attracted by a noise that sounded like the explosion of a revolver, and that upon looking around she saw the negro fall to the ground, but did not see the person who fired the shot. Another feature of the case which seems hard to explain is that Thomas had a loaded revolver in his pocket at the time he was killed and that the weapon was later found near his body with one chamber empty. Notwithstanding the many mysterious circumstances surrounding the murder, there was no testimony to show that Mary White fired the fatal shot, and Justice Shackelford was therefore compelled to release her from custody.

The residents of the community in which the shooting occurred are considerably aroused over the killing, as this is the second mysterious murder that has occurred in the neighborhood within less than a year. Only a few months ago Sid Neville, a negro living on the Gunter place, which is only a short distance from the scene of the Thomas murder, was decoyed from his house and shot. The shooting occurred about nine o'clock at night, and no one knew anything about it until next morning, when the body was found lying in the public road. A negro named Will Lee was arrested on suspicion, but there was no evidence to show that he committed the crime, and he was released from custody. Up to the present time there is no clue as to the identity of Thomas' murderer, and it may be that this crime will also remain shrouded in mystery.

Mr. W. W. O'Connell, sales agent for the National Cash Register Company, with headquarters in Meridian, spent a few days in the city the past week, and landed a couple of nice orders. Mr. O'Connell is one of the most popular traveling men visiting this city.

Mr. Curtis Chappell, city letter carrier, who has been spending his vacation visiting the exposition at Jamestown, has returned home.

Mrs. R. M. Noland, who has been absent from the city for a short time past, has returned home.



HON. J. T. GUNTER.

Ex-Mayor of Columbus and a Prominent Citizen Whose
Death Occurred Last Friday Afternoon.

HON. J. T. GUNTER HAS PASSED AWAY

FORMER MAYOR OF COLUMBUS,
IN BAD HEALTH FOR SOME
TIME, DIED IN THIS
CITY ON FRIDAY.

Deceased Was Prominent in Political
and Fraternal Circles, and His
Death is a Source of Uni-
versal Regret Here.

The announcement of the death of Hon. J. T. Gunter, which occurred at his home on College street at two o'clock Friday afternoon, was received with genuine sorrow and profound regret throughout the entire city, a city whose people he has served well both as their chief magistrate and as an enterprising, public spirited citizen. Mr. Gunter was not only a zealous and conscientious city official, but a noble, generous and upright man. He was no more faithful to his duties as a public official than to the obligations of friendship, and there is not a man or woman who ever knew him and who was acquainted with his numerous good qualities who is not grief-stricken by his death.

Mr. Gunter's death was by no means unexpected. His health has been poor for more than a year, so poor in fact that it kept him from standing for re-election to the office of mayor last summer, when he was strongly urged by his friends to make the race. Upon retiring from office last January he went on an extended tour of the West, hoping that the change of climate would enable him to recuperate his failing health. The trip, however, did not have the desired effect, and a few weeks ago he returned to Columbus in practically the same physical condition as when he left here last winter. He was able to visit the business district only once or twice, and was warmly greeted by his friends. He was soon taken to his bed, however, and suffered intensely, his malady, which was kidney trouble, having assumed an acute form. He grew gradually worse until death finally relieved his sufferings.

Mr. Gunter came to this city about twenty years ago from Pickens county, Alabama, and during his long residence here has been prominently identified with the commercial and political interests of the city. Upon coming to Columbus he entered the warehouse business, and also successfully conducted a small hotel. In 1898 he built the Commercial Hotel on College street, and for seven years

was proprietor of that hostelry, which he leased out two years ago in order that he might enjoy the comforts of a private home. In 1902 Mr. Gunter was elected mayor of the city and served two terms, having, on account of ill health, declined to stand for re-election to a third term. His administration was one of the most progressive that Columbus has ever enjoyed. While he was in office provision was made for the erection of an additional public school building, for an extension of the water and sewerage systems, and for numerous other municipal improvements. It was through his influence that Bradford Square was secured by the city for use as a park, and he was also largely instrumental in securing the street railway, it having been at his suggestion that the promoters first took hold of the project, and he having urged the city council to make certain concessions which finally resulted in the construction of the line. Mr. Gunter occupied a prominent position in local fraternal circles, having been a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World, and other fraternal and benevolent organizations. He was elected noble grand of Union Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F., last January, but on account of ill health had never been able to discharge the duties of the office.

The deceased is survived by a widow, one son, Mr. Henry Gunter, and two daughters, Mrs. A. R. Davis, of Athens, Ga., and Miss Carine Gunter, of this city. He also leaves an aged mother, Mrs. Margaret Gunter, and four brothers, Messrs. W. C. R. J. and Preston Gunter, of this city, and Dr. Leon Gunter, of Decatur, Ala. Mr. Preston Gunter is now in Texas, whither he went several months ago for the purpose of recuperating his failing health, and was not with his brother when the end came. His bedside, however, was surrounded by the members of his immediate family and many loving friends and relatives, and everything possible was done to make his last hours on earth peaceful and tranquil.

The funeral will take place at the First Methodist church at nine o'clock this morning, being participated in by both the Odd Fellows and Masons. The members of Columbus Lodge No. 5, A. F. and A. M., and Union Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F., are requested to meet at their respective lodge rooms promptly at eight o'clock for the purpose of attending the obsequies.

Misses Frances and May Walton, who have been the guests of their sister, Mrs. T. O. Burris, for the past few days, have returned to their home in Hamilton.

Vardaman Addresses Enthusiastic Audience at West Point.

West Point, Miss., June 18.—Gov. James K. Vardaman arrived from Tupelo this morning over the Mobile and Ohio Railroad at 10:50 o'clock and was met at the depot by a large delegation of enthusiastic friends and Leslie's concert band, and was escorted to the hotel, where he spent the remainder of the day resting and receiving friends.

At eight o'clock at the opera house the governor was introduced by Capt. W. S. Coleman, an old Confederate soldier, in a most happy and impressive way, whereupon he addressed the monster audience, conspicuous for the number of ladies in attendance.

The governor began by speaking of the duties of citizenship. He impressed the voters with the fact that this is a government of the people, by the people and for the people, and when a change of its laws is necessary for the welfare of the people it is their duty, as well as their right, to change them. He thanked God that in Mississippi today the vote of the white man who pushes the plow or holds the plow handles counts for as much as that of a senator or a congressman or a governor.

The address related chiefly to the race question and the proposed repeal of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, and was one of the most powerful speeches on the race question ever delivered in this city.

The governor held that if the repeal of these amendments would be right after a while, it is right now, and that the time is at hand when the amendments must be repealed or else the negro can claim protection under the amendments as to rights of citizenship. "If the matter is not to be brought up now, who will do it by and by, and when?" asked the governor. He maintained that his position relative to railroad legislation had often and flagrantly been misrepresented. He referred to his official record and left it to the people if he had not been true to his promises made before election.

The governor received the closest attention throughout the speech and was greeted with thunderous applause from time to time.

Mr. Cates in Jackson.

The following notice regarding the Rev. Geo. C. Cates, who is now conducting a revival in Jackson, Miss., will be read with pleasure by the friends of the evangelist in this city. The notice is taken from the Jackson correspondent of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, and reads as follows:

"The meetings of Evangelist Cates now in progress here are absorbing a great deal of interest, and the attendance both morning and night is the largest that has marked any revival meeting in recent years. Mr. Cates is far from well physically, and the daily preaching for more than an hour, coupled with the strain incident to exhorting and praying with his congregations, is visible even to the most casual observer. There is some kind of attractiveness about the man that is said to be hard to resist, and this is evident by the large number who apparently feel the influence of his arguments and are affected thereby. The congregations number from 1,500 to 2,500 persons, with all the Protestant clergy and others uniting on the platform, while large volunteer choirs are in attendance at all times. He stated last night that the period of his stay would be rather indefinite; that he had been sent for to do some work and would remain until he believed that work was accomplished; it might be ten days and it might be longer."

Hon. Jeff Truly to Speak.

The Hon. Jeff Truly, candidate for governor, will speak at Caledonia on July the 8th at ten o'clock in the morning; also in the city of Columbus on the same date at night, place to be announced later; on July 9th at Mt. Vernon school house, in the eastern section of the county, at ten o'clock in the morning. 6-23-1d

Mrs. Howard Marshall and son, Mr. Howard Young Marshall, returned home on Thursday from Clarksville, Tenn. Mrs. Marshall was a visitor to Clarksville to attend the graduation exercises of her son, Howard Young, who was an honor graduate from the Southwestern Presbyterian University in that city.

We regret to note the illness of little Miss Agnes Warfield, who is quite sick with fever. It is to be hoped that her condition will soon be much improved.

ENGINE COLLIDES WITH TROLLEY CAR

ACCIDENT OCCURRED THURSDAY
AT THE POINT ON COLLEGE
STREET AND SOUTHERN
ROAD CROSSING.

Trolley Car and Oil Car Attached to
Locomotive Were Smashed Up
in Collision—No Personal
Injuries Resulted.

A trolley car collided with an oil car attached to a Southern Railway switch engine at the College street crossing last Thursday, and both the trolley car and oil car were badly smashed up. There were no personal injuries as a result of the accident, the passengers on the trolley car, together with the motorman and conductor, having jumped just in time to escape the impact.

The accident occurred shortly after the noon hour last Thursday, when car No. 5, in charge of Conductor Bowman Scott and Motorman E. A. Medford, was bowling along at an ordinary rate of speed en route to the city. As the car neared the point on College street where the Southern Railway crosses that thoroughfare, Motorman Scott noticed that a switch engine, pushing an oil car, was approaching from the north. He was under the impression that he could clear the crossing before the switch engine had time to reach it, and in his effort to get out of the way of the locomotive threw his controller around to the highest speed notch. The controller was thrown wide open, and instead of increasing the speed, as the motorman had intended, he threw the current off, and the car stopped stock still. Medford realized that it would be impossible to get the current on again in time to clear the crossing before it was reached by the locomotive, so he yelled to the passengers to jump. The passengers on the car at the time of the accident were Messrs. J. M. McQuown, Earl Burris, J. H. Rectin and G. F. Brown, and they, together with Conductor Scott and Motorman Medford, escaped uninjured.

The locomotive with which the street car collided was Southern switch engine No. 1560, in charge of Engineer John Bealle and Yard Conductor W. H. Gabbott, both of whom escaped uninjured. The trolley car was knocked from the track and rolled over on the Southern Railway trestle, which is a few feet south of the College street crossing. The car was completely disabled, having been battered and broken up to such an extent that it will have to be thoroughly overhauled and repaired before being placed in use again. The oil car, which, as stated above, was in front of the switch engine, was also considerably broken up. The locomotive was in no way damaged in the collision.

Stewart-Wood.

Mr. S. O. Stewart and Miss Grace Wood were married on Thursday night last at the home of the bride's sister, Miss Allie B. Wood, on North Second avenue. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. M. Zwingle. Miss Wood, who is the daughter of Mr. Thomas J. Wood, editor of the Starkville News, is a very pretty and attractive young lady, and is very popular with a large circle of friends which she has made since her residence of a few months past in this city. Mr. Stewart is from Hollis, Oklahoma, where he is a well known young business man. This wedding is the culmination of a romance that had its beginning at the Agricultural and Mechanical College four years ago, at which time Mr. Stewart, a student of that institution, met Miss Wood.

Miss Mary Clarke Dead.

Miss Mary Clarke, the mother of Mr. G. B. Clarke, agent for the Singer Sewing Machine Company in this city, died at her home in Ethelville, Ala., at seven o'clock on last Friday evening. The deceased was sixty-four years old, and her death was caused by dropsy. The body was taken to Mayhew for interment, and the funeral will occur there at 11 o'clock this morning.

Col. and Mrs. W. C. Richards left the past week for a visit to their son, Mr. Frank Richards, at his home in Chicot county, Arkansas.

Mr. Will Wakefield, a former Columbian, who is now living in Texarkana, is in the city on a visit to relatives and friends.

Beautiful Building Lot.

Midway between city and M. &
O. depot. Dimensions: 60 front
by 115 feet. Price \$1,000.

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COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

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